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6 August 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, USIB

SUBJECT : Secretariat Summary of USIB Agenda for 8 August

Item 1 Approval of Minutes of 1 August Meeting

Drafts have been circulated by the Exec Sec for USIB approval;  
Sponsor - [redacted]

Item 2 Watch Report

Draft by Watch Committee to be circulated for Board approval;  
Sponsor - [redacted]

Item 3 USIB Memorandum on the Effect of Certain Arms Limitations on Soviet Military Programs

BNE draft coordinated with the USIB Representatives for Board approval; Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

The Working Group on Strategic Arms Limitation requested an estimate on this subject as background for arms limitation talks. BNE, noting that the assumptions were furnished by the Working Group with regard to the postulated arms limitation agreement, finds it hard to believe that the Soviets would accept an agreement holding them to such an inferior position in numbers of intercontinental weapons. BNE believes that estimating Soviet courses of action under such unreal assumptions makes this memorandum a very special case, and therefore recommends limited distribution only to the requester and USIB members and that it not be a SNIE as originally requested.

BNE stresses that, given the ground rules set forth in the assumptions, courses of action have been projected which would not be estimated under other conditions. Mr. Abbot Smith's briefing memo outlines the DIA, Army, and Air Force dissents insofar as they are understood in the absence of the texts of footnotes.

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